

(b) While some measures contained in the Policy Measures have already been implemented, others are under inter-ministerial discussion and will be implemented at the earliest possible.

(c) All types of eligible SSI units are likely to benefit from the Policy Measures.

Coal for Power Stations

5538. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirement of coal each year for power stations in the country during

the last three years;

(b) the linkage sanctioned by the government against this requirement;

(c) the total quantity of coal supplied to power stations during 1991;

(d) whether some power stations were shut down for want of coal recently; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, and the remedial steps taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOURA): (a) to (c). Details regarding demand, linkages sanctioned by the Standing Linkage Committee (Short-term) (SLC), and the quantity of coal supplied to power utilities during the last three years are given below:-

(Figs. in million tonnes)

	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
i) Demand	121.00	131.00	137.00 (Full Year)
ii) Linkages sanctioned (By SLC short-term)	141.8	148.6	164.50 (Full Year)
iii) Despatches of coal	115.12	118.79	124.75 (upto Feb' 1992)

(Date provisional. All figures include middlings also.)

(d) and (e). As reported by Coal India Ltd., no power station was shut down completely for want of coal during the year 1991-92. However, Central Electricity Authority have reported that a few power stations had to shut down some of their units, causing generation loss due to shortage of coal in 1991-92. Despatch of coal to power stations is monitored daily, and corrective action are taken immediately to maintain regular supplies.

[Translation]

Regional Super Computer Centre

5539. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) whether any decision has been taken

to set up Regional Super Computer Centres in the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up such a unit in each district of Bihar; and

(c) if so, the time by which the said project is likely to be started?

➤ THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) There is no proposal to set up Regional Super Computer Centres in various parts of the country.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

Bihar Industrial Development Corporation

5540. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

➤ (a) whether the Bihar Industrial Development Corporation has submitted some proposals for setting up industries with foreign collaboration and with the help of Non-Resident Indians;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the proposals cleared by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) No such proposal has been received in the recent past.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

FPS to Consumer Cooperatives

5541. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDEL-

WAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to give preference to the consumer cooperatives for setting up Fair Price Shops throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether the directions to all State Governments have also been given to adopt the said procedure;

(c) if so, whether the interest of consumers is proposed to be protected as a result of this step; and

(d) if so, the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d). The administration of the Public Distribution System (PDS) is done by the State Government/UT Administrations. Decisions regarding opening and allotment of fair price shops are taken by them. The Central Government has advised the State Governments/UT Administrations to give preference to Cooperatives and Civil Supplies Corporations to open fair price shops particularly in rural areas. They have also been requested to take special care with regard to those areas, where private people (traders) are reluctant to run fair price shops or are not running them efficiently. There are about 3.78 lakhs fair price shops as on 31.3.91 of which about 22.5% are run by Cooperatives. Cooperative Institutions are meant to protect the interests of the people. Whenever malfunctioning of such institutions come to notice, remedial action is taken by the State Governments/UT Administrations.

Stowing of Sand in Coalmines

5542. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state: